GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4210
ANSWERED ON:18.05.2006
CONVERSION OF OLD PLANES FOR CARGO USE
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines(IA) proposes to convert its old planes for cargo use;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred by IA in conversion of these planes;

(d) the extent to which it is likely to benefit the IA in handling cargo; and

(e) the time by which IA is likely to start its cargo service in the country?

Answer

- MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b) and (c): Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines proposes to convert five B-737 aircraft, at present operated by Alliance Air to freighter aircraft at an average conversion cost of approximately USD 1.5 million per aircraft. Indian Airlines plans to operate these freighter services with Nagpur as a hub and Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai (via Bangalore & Hyderabad) as originating stations.

(d): With the operation of freighters, Indian Airlines would be able to expand its cargo business and also offer dedicated cargo service during the night time.

(e): No definite time frame for start of the cargo service has so far been finalised.